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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : MASOTTI et al.
Serial No : 10/595,336
Confirm. No. : 7707
Filed : April 10, 2006
For : IMPROVED METHOD AND...
Art Unit : N/A
Examiner : N/A
Dated : June 20, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attached please find Form PTO/SB/08a together with the references as stated in the specification. No translations are available at this time.

- EP-A-1.341.003 as discussed on Pages 6, 7 and 12 of the specification.
- U.S. Patent 6,066,098 as discussed on Page 13 of the specification.

The following references have been cited in the International Phase of the above-identified application.

- Masotti L. et al. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers: "Tissue differentiation based on radio-frequency echographic signal local spectral content (rules: radio-frequency ultrasonic local estimator)". The reference has been cited under Category X as being relevant to International claims 1 - 26. No copy of this reference is being furnished at this time.
- Suzuki K. et al.: "Cepstral Analysis of Ultrasound in Chronic Liver Disease - A

Evaluation of Structural Change". The reference has been cited under Category X as being relevant to International claims 1, 2 and 11. No copy of this reference is being furnished at this time.

- U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2003/0167003 A1. The reference corresponds to EP1341003 as discussed previously above.

- Masotti L. et al: "Femmina" a fast echographic multi parametric multi-imaging novel apparatus". The reference has been cited under Category A as being relevant to International claims 1 and 17. No copy of this reference is being furnished at this time.

- Cincotti G. et al: "Frequency Decomposition and Compounding of Ultrasound Medical Images with Wavelet Packets". The reference has been cited under Category A as being relevant to International claims 1 and 17. No copy of this reference is being furnished at this time.

- U.S. Patent 6,066,098.

Applicant wishes to bring to the attention of the Examiner the following references.

- EP0898700 discloses a test tube for biological analyses of organic liquids using electro-optical equipment. No translation is available at this time, however, attached is an English language abstract. The reference corresponds to WO 97/43622 and U.S. Patent 6,190,615.

- U.S. Patent 5,133,208.

- WO 97/43621 discloses an apparatus for the preparation and the performance of sedimentation velocity tests on organic liquids and other substances.

- WO 98/02726 discloses an erythrosedimentation rate (ESR) test apparatus.
- WO 91/09295 discloses a method and device for determining the sedimentation rate of blood.
- U.S. Patent 5,133,208.
- U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2003/0087443 A1.
- U.S. Patent 5,914,272.
- U.S. Patent 6,403,328.
- U.S. Patent 4,187,462.
- U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2003/0113930 A1.

Respectfully submitted
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JJM:tf
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Enclosed: PTO/SB/08a Form
copy of International Search Report
copies of (6) References and (1) English Abstract

DATED: June 20, 2006
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